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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Alak Deb

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EXAMINER

RIDER, JUSTIN W

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/753,846	Applicant(s) DEB ET AL.	
	Examiner JUSTIN W. RIDER	Art Unit 2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 April 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 18-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 18-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 14 April 2008 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2, 4-13 and 15-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **CORSTON-OLIVER** in view of **W3C, 'Speech Recognition Grammar Specification Version 1.0', W3C Candidate Recommendation 26 June 2002** referred to as **W3C** hereinafter and in further view of **Raz (US Patent No. 6,292,827)** referred to as **RAZ** hereinafter.

Claim 1: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a method for evaluating contents of a message, comprising:

- i. characterizing (determining document structure and other information) a message segment [*variety of parts*] (col. 5, lines 2-3);
- ii. scanning the message segment to define tokens associated with the message segment (col. 5, lines 23-24, '*receives message body 214 and breaks it into words (or other tokens).*'););

iii. parsing the tokens to extract substructures (col. 5, lines 25-28, '*and obtains a variety of information associated with each word (or token), such as the meaning, the part-of-speech, etc.*' [emphasis added]);

iv. determining rules associated with the tokens, the rules when executed defining actions (ways to handle tokens based on rules) and executing the actions associated with the message segment (col. 8, lines 22-67, tokens are handled a certain way based on the meanings, part-of-speech, etc.); and

vi. queuing the message segment for transmission to a destination (Fig. 2, **202**; col. 5, lines 60-65, the compressor component **202** performs a compression on the message before outputting it to a target device).

However **CORSTON-OLIVER** fails to, but **W3C** does disclose associating each of the message segments with a meta session through the tokens (p. 41, section 4.11.1: Meta and HTTP-Equiv, '*A meta declaration in either ABNF Form or the XML Form associates a string to declared meta property or declares "http-equiv" content.*'), wherein the meta session is persistent across message transactions [As the examiner interprets this document, metadata consists of *standardized* properties (e.g. state information) that exist within incoming pieces of data (e.g. documents, messages, etc). This information is a standard implemented by the industry to be accessible across a plurality of platforms as well as across multiple 'chunks' of data contained within a single meta session. This is a convenient way for authors of this data to maintain a 'standard' across many platforms to abide by. This further allows for proper identification of content through a meta session in which the metadata is uniform across all platforms, meta sessions, tokens and the like. So therefore, this feature is inherent within the scope of **W3C**.].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the teachings of **W3C** in the method of **CORSTON-OLIVER** because **W3C** defines the syntax and rules for representing grammars used in recognition of linguistics. The disclosed system using Augmented BNF Form and XML form, which are two well-known grammars used in the art which are flexible, simple and widely implemented.

Further, while **CORSTON-OLIVER**, in view of **W3C** disclose the above, they fail to but **RAZ** does specifically disclose wherein data associated with messages (e.g. to track user transactions) is stored and available for use persistently across different sessions (col. 15, lines 12-32 discloses The Information Transfer Network system, which is a central network responsible for both tracking and managing user transactions that are stored in a central locations and are therefore available across a multiple http sessions.).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one possessing ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the teachings of **RAZ** in the system of **CORSTON-OLIVER**, in view of **W3C** because it provides an information transfer system that is capable of consolidating ONE central console that monitors all system components; distributing regional and functional specific consoles; and monitor and provide different kinds of problem alerts (pager, fax, sound, send messages to sub-contractor system, etc.) among other advantages (col. 15, lines 17-30).

Claim 2: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a method as per claim 1 above, however failing to, but **W3C** does disclose retrieving meta session state information related to the message segments wherein the meta session state information is invariant across different connections [As the examiner interprets this document, metadata consists of *standardized* properties (e.g. state information) that exist within incoming pieces of data (e.g. documents,

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messages, etc). This information is a standard implemented by the industry to be accessible across a plurality of platforms as well as across multiple 'chunks' of data contained within a single meta session. This is a convenient way for authors of this data to maintain a 'standard' across many platforms to abide by. This further allows for proper identification of content through a meta session in which the metadata is uniform across all platforms, meta sessions, tokens and the like. So therefore, this feature is inherent within the scope of **W3C**.] (p. 41, section 4.11.1: Meta and HTTP-Equiv, '*A meta declaration in either ABNF Form or the XML Form associates a string to declared meta property or declares "http-equiv" content.*').

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the teachings of **W3C** in the method of **CORSTON-OLIVER** because **W3C** defines the syntax and rules for representing grammars used in recognition of linguistics, using Augmented BNF Form and XML form, which are two well-known grammars used in the art which are flexible, simple and widely implemented.

Further, while **CORSTON-OLIVER**, in view of **W3C** disclose the above, they fail to but **RAZ** does specifically disclose wherein context relevant data associated with messages (e.g. to track user transactions) across a plurality of HTTP sessions is stored and available for use persistently across different sessions (col. 15, lines 12-32 discloses The Information Transfer Network system, which is a central network responsible for both tracking and managing user transactions that are stored in a central locations and are therefore available across a multiple http sessions.).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one possessing ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the teachings of **RAZ** in the system of **CORSTON-OLIVER**, in

view of **W3C** because it provides an information transfer system that is capable of consolidating ONE central console that monitors all system components; distributing regional and functional specific consoles; and monitor and provide different kinds of problem alerts (pager, fax, sound, send messages to sub-contractor system, etc.) among other advantages (col. 15, lines 17-30).

Claim 4: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a method for evaluating contents of a message as per claim 1 above, wherein the method operation of parsing the tokens to extract substructures includes creating a parse tree (col. 5, lines 28-31).

Claims 5 and 6: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a method for evaluating contents of a message as per claim 1 above, wherein the method operation of determining rules associated with the tokens includes defining an object oriented scheme (col. 2, lines 34-38, *'may be described in the general context of computer-executable instructions, such as program modules...include...objects, '*) to associate the message segment with at least one of the rules and wherein the method operation of defining an object oriented scheme to associate the message segment with at least one of the rules is enabled through grammar based access (under cols. 11-12, pseudo code from a particular object code grammar defines rules, of which are applied to the message segments, further embodied by the token characteristics disclosed in cols. 15-16).

Claim 7: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a method for evaluating contents of a message as per claim 1 above, wherein the method operation of parsing the tokens to extract substructures includes, searching a list of keywords (col. 5, lines 25-27, *'accesses a morphological data base (such as a dictionary)...*); and inferring semantics of sub-strings between the key words (*...and obtains a variety of information associated with each word (or token), such as the meaning, the part-of-speech, etc...'*).

Claim 8: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a method for evaluating contents of a message as per claim 1 above, wherein the message is composed of multiple segments (col. 5, lines 2-4, *'includes a variety of parts including a header, a body of text, and, in the case of email, previous messages in the email thread'*).

Claim 9: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a method for evaluating contents of a message as per claim 1 above, wherein the substructures span multiple message segments (col. 5, lines 15-19, *'may provide any other natural language body of text to analyzer 206, other than message body 214. For example...a subject header, a task description header, a web page, etc.'*).

Claim 10: Claim 10 is similar in scope and content to that of claim 1 above and so therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

Claim 11: Claim 11 is similar in scope and content to that of claim 2 above and so therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

Claim 12: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a method as per claim 1 above, however failing to, but **W3C** does disclose determining a grammar type (style of message, e.g. ABNF Form, XML) of the message (p. 24, Section 2.7: Language).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the teachings of **W3C** in the method of **CORSTON-OLIVER** because of the reasons outlined above.

Claim 13: Claim 13 is similar in scope and content to that of claim 4 above and so therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

Claim 15: Claim 15 is similar in scope and content to that of claim 7 above and so therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

Claim 16: Claim 16 is similar in scope and content to that of claim 1 above and so therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

Claims 17-18: Claims 17-18 are similar in scope and content to that of claim 2 above and so therefore are rejected under the same rationale.

Claim 19: Claim 19 is similar in scope and content to that of claim 7 above and so therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

Claim 20: Claim 20 is similar in scope and content to that of claim 12 above and so therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

Claim 21: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a network device as per claim 16 above, wherein the circuitry for scanning a message to define tokens associated with the message includes circuitry for building a data structure from the defined tokens (col. 7, lines 52-54).

4. Claims 3 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **CORSTON-OLIVER** in view of **Moscola et al.**, ‘Implementation of a Content-Scanning Module for an Internet Firewall’ referred to as **MOSCOLA** hereinafter.

Claim 3: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a method as per claim 3 above, however failing to, but **MOSCOLA** does, specifically disclose wherein, upon analysis of an incoming message, if determined to be suspect, is dealt with (quarantined) according to the rules that govern many Denial of Service (DOS) attacks (1. Introduction).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the teachings of **MOSCOLA** in the method of **CORSTON-OLIVER** because **MOSCOLA** discloses a means for greatly expanding firewall functionality, which

allows for a greater reduction of potentially harmful intrusions, by adding regular expression matching within the packet payload.

Claim 14: **CORSTON-OLIVER** discloses a method as per claim 3 above, sending messages in multiple segments, however failing to, but **MOSCOLA** does, specifically disclose wherein messages are sent over a packet-based network (Abstract; Introduction).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the teachings of **MOSCOLA** in the method of **CORSTON-OLIVER** because of the reasons outlined above.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JUSTIN W. RIDER whose telephone number is (571)270-1068. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R. Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

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Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J. W. R./

Examiner, Art Unit 2626

26 June 2008

/David R Hudspeth/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2626